

## LATE NEWS BY WIRE

Preparing for the New York Convention.

## EX-SENATOR PLATT KEPT IN HIS ROOM

A Change in the Program is Announced.

## EFFORTS FOR HARMONY

NEW YORK, March 23.—J. Sloan Fassett and Seneca E. Payne were among today's arrivals of prominent republicans who will participate in the state convention tomorrow.

Mr. Fassett is actively working up the presidential candidacy of Governor Morton. Mr. Payne is said to be slated for an election at Albany.

Ex-Senator T. C. Platt kept his room all the forenoon on the plea of indisposition. He was able, however, to give audience to several leaders from the interior of the state.

A possible deviation from the program already announced is in the case of alternate delegates. Controller Roberts of Buffalo, it is alleged, may be dropped from the list unless he can give assurance that the Erie county delegates will fall in line for Morton for the presidency. Senator Loxley will be chairman of the committee on resolutions.

It has been decided to admit the Millbrook delegates from five of the New York city districts.

## BRITISH-EGYPTIAN ADVANCE.

Occupation of Akasha Friday With-  
out Opposition.

CAIRO, March 23.—News from the front received here today confirms the report that the British-Egyptian advance guard, under Major Collinson, occupied Akasha Friday last without opposition. A fort is now being built at that place.

The Egyptian debt commission met today in order to again discuss the question of the withdrawal of funds from the reserve, with which to defray expenses of the British-Egyptian expedition up the Nile; but owing to the illness of the German commissioner the meeting was adjourned until Thursday.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 23.—An extraordinary council of ministers, which lasted all day long, was held here Saturday. The subject under discussion was the British-Egyptian expedition.

Mr. Harman, the British consul at Zeltoun, has been ordered to report upon the disturbances which took place on March 20.

## THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

Coming Meeting of Three Crowned  
Emperors.

BERLIN, March 23.—The Emperor and Empress of Germany started this morning for Genoa, where, it is expected, they will meet the King of Italy and embark on board the imperial yacht Hohenzollern for a Mediterranean cruise.

It is not definitely known this morning whether Emperor Francis Joseph will meet his majesty.

Prior to the departure of the emperor General von Werder, the former German ambassador to Russia, arrived here and presented his majesty with an autograph letter from the czar.

## AVERTED A PANIC.

Choir Sang at Cumberland Wallie the  
People Passed Out.

CUMBERLAND, Md., March 23.—For the past ten days Evangelist Fife has been holding revival services in the Academy of Music, resulting in the conversion of about a hundred people. Last night was the closing one, and just as Mr. Fife was in the midst of his talk a cracking sound was heard. Manager Stahl of the Academy went to him on the stage and told him to dismiss the audience.

It was then became known that the floor of the Academy was sinking, and the pillars sank about two inches from beneath the two galleries.

The people jumped to their feet, but in a voice that penetrated the uproar Mr. Fife commanded the excited throng to be seated. The people were seated in their seats, and while the choir sang the audience was dismissed, section at a time. There were about two thousand persons present.

## ATTACKING MR. WELLINGTON.

Efforts of the Gary and Master Re-  
publicans.

BALTIMORE, Md., March 23.—The anti-Wellington republicans, headed by Mr. James A. Gary and William T. Master, have held a meeting and decided for the moment to combine to defeat, if possible, the anticipated efforts of the Senator-elect and his friends to control the state convention, when it assembles to select its delegates to the national convention.

The general impression, however, is that the "ants" might spend their time much more profitably, for the object of their work is so firmly established behind the patronage at hand and prospective, that he can well keep his serenity untroubled, and observe their efforts to displace him with great complacency. The way in which Mr. Wellington controlled the recent meeting of the state central committee, in the face of the opposition of the anti-Wellington republicans that it is folly to attack him, and the belief of many followers of local politicians, that the efforts of the anti-Wellington republicans to displace him will produce nothing more than entertainment for the democrats.

## WILL WITHDRAW THE BILL.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

BALTIMORE, March 23.—The presidents of several street railway companies met in the office of ex-Gov. Brown this morning, and after a consultation, decided to withdraw the bill introduced in the general assembly to exempt the companies in the tax of 9 per cent on their gross receipts, and after that a tax of 2 per cent. The bill was created great popular excitement, and in deference to the outcry was withdrawn. President Bruce of the senate was asked by ex-Gov. Brown to announce the withdrawal of the bill in the state senate to-night.

## Murder Trial at Petersburg.

PETERSBURG, Va., March 23.—The trial of Matthew Jones for the brutal murder of his wife on December 3 was begun today. The murder has been much talked of here, and two juries were exhausted before a jury could be obtained.

## Death at Petersburg.

PETERSBURG, Va., March 23.—Mr. P. H. Booth, one of Petersburg's wealthiest and oldest citizens, died at his home last night after a protracted illness. He was in his seventy-sixth year and was a native of Surrey county. He had been a merchant here for forty years, but for the last two years he retired. He was at one time a member of the city council. He leaves a widow and four children.

## Wallace Ross Beaten.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, March 23.—W. A. Barry defeated Wallace Ross on the Tyne today for a purse of £100.

## CRITICISING MR. CHANDLER

His Reiterated Charges Concerning the  
McKinley Campaign.

Leading Republicans Depreciate Quar-  
rels Within the Party and  
Denounce Mr. Chandler.

The reiteration by Senator Chandler of his charges against McKinley managers, that they are seeking financial aid from manufacturers to secure the nomination of the Ohio candidate, has caused much talk. The opinion is widely expressed that the controversy is likely to prove hurtful to the party, and is, therefore, deprecated.

Republicans who agree with Chandler's contentions are, without exception, averse to giving an opinion over their names. The whole episode is regarded as unfortunate by many men of reputation, and no take exception to Chandler's position are out-spoken in their opposition, while democrats express enjoyment of the controversy.

At first General Grosvenor was not inclined to talk, saying that the controversy had gone too far, and he would have no more of it. "You may quote me in this, however," said the McKinley leader, "I pay as such information that leads me to believe that the people of New England know Senator Chandler, and that's all the answer I need to let me think it necessary to make."

Representative McCall of Massachusetts said: "I think Mr. Chandler should have some evidence for his charges of that kind than the assertions of a democratic newspaper."

Representative Walker said: "I regret exceedingly that Mr. Chandler should have said what he did. In the sense that the country will understand his statements and that I believe absolutely true."

Mr. Hill of Connecticut, although preferring Reid, says he is a republican primarily, and as such he is not in the controversy. "It is no policy to conduct such a dispute in public. The republican party should let it by themselves. I shall not believe in the truthfulness of these charges until the evidence is incontrovertible."

Mr. Pickler of South Dakota does not like to discuss the matter in the public press. "I have no objection to the fact that Mr. Chandler has made a charge, and I have no objection to the fact that Mr. Chandler has made a charge, and I have no objection to the fact that Mr. Chandler has made a charge."

Mr. Mitchell of Oregon spoke of it simply as a charge. "I have no objection to the fact that Mr. Chandler has made a charge, and I have no objection to the fact that Mr. Chandler has made a charge, and I have no objection to the fact that Mr. Chandler has made a charge."

Mr. Babcock, chairman of the House District committee, said in a statement to the press: "It is purely a personal matter with Senator Chandler. He represents nobody but himself in this controversy."

Mr. Hartman of Montana, an advocate of free silver, is more outspoken, and declares that the charges are untrue. "Chandler has made a gross blunder, but if true, the public should know it, and Chandler is to be commended."

Mr. Powers of Vermont said: "Most unfortunate! I am a Reid man, but I don't believe in a charge of this kind. I don't think the charges are true. In the first place, Cooper, democrat of Florida, who expects to go to the Senate from his state, said that at this stage of the game the controversy belonged to the republicans, and that the question of the truthfulness of the charges was not to be discussed."

Mr. Bailey of Texas said that he was not disposed to discuss the question before the national convention, but that he was a republican, and that his charges were now a matter of record, and that he would not be called upon to make use of the Chandler letter.

## ROCKVILLE POST OFFICE ROBBED.

A Nest Safe-Cracking Job Near This  
City.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

ROCKVILLE, Md., March 23.—The post office at this place was last night entered by burglars, who blew open the safe and took about \$25, mostly in pennies and nickels, and a quantity of postage stamps. The office was entered through a rear window, which was opened by means of tools taken from the blacksmith shop of S. B. Han. The safe was also broken open. Entrance to the safe was made by means of a hole near the combination lock, which was filled with powder or dynamite, and the entire front was blown out. This morning the back door and portions of the front window were broken open, and the safe was left open to prevent the breaking of the glass by the concussion. It is not yet definitely known whether the loss will be recovered, or whether the loss will be recovered, or whether the loss will be recovered.

The Rockville post office is in Lyndale's Han building, and there is no building directly adjoining it. The nearest building to the post office, being about forty feet distant, and so far as is known, none of the boarders heard the report of the explosion. When the discovery of the burglary was made this morning, the authorities were soon at work making an investigation.

As already stated, several suspicious-looking persons were seen about the post office yesterday evening. It is thought that they had probably committed the robbery, and that the safe was broken open by means of a hole near the combination lock, which was filled with powder or dynamite, and the entire front was blown out. This morning the back door and portions of the front window were broken open, and the safe was left open to prevent the breaking of the glass by the concussion. It is not yet definitely known whether the loss will be recovered, or whether the loss will be recovered, or whether the loss will be recovered.

The police here did not receive any official information of the robbery, but a resident of Rockville communicated the facts to Inspector Hollenberger, who will have the members of the detective corps make an effort to locate and apprehend the safe blowers. This is the first job of the kind since the robbery of the safe at the railroad station yesterday, and it is thought that they had probably committed the robbery, and that the safe was broken open by means of a hole near the combination lock, which was filled with powder or dynamite, and the entire front was blown out. This morning the back door and portions of the front window were broken open, and the safe was left open to prevent the breaking of the glass by the concussion. It is not yet definitely known whether the loss will be recovered, or whether the loss will be recovered, or whether the loss will be recovered.

Inspector Hollenberger said this morning that he was sorry to hear that the safe blowers were so near here, for he feared they might visit this city.

The safe blowers have been notified to keep a sharp lookout for them, and the arrest of a number of suspicious characters may follow.

## A KNOWN QUANTITY

is what a purchaser is entitled to, whether he buys dry-goods, groceries, advertising space, or anything else. In any case he has a right to know the precise quantity and the exact character of the article he pays for, and, if wise, he will get the most and best that can be had for the money he pays. In the matter of publicity this he can get only in a clean decent family newspaper like THE EVENING STAR, with its phenomenal regular permanent paid-for household circulation, not in noisome fungous give away sheets, that are thrown pell mell into gutters and by-ways, and sent in bulk to junk shops and paper mills, in order to make a show of circulation with which to deceive unwary advertisers.

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## FREE SILVER CRY

As an Independent American  
Policy It Will Never Win.

## A PRECEDENT IN CASE OF FREE TRADE

When It Came to Legislative Ac-  
tion Protection Was Recognized.

## BUSINESS MEN'S INFLUENCE

A party leader of national reputation, an advocate of sound money, and a close observer of events, said to a representative of The Star today:

"It would not surprise me if before this free silver cry is disposed of a national campaign is made on it. If such should prove to be the case I shall have no doubt of the result. Free silver as an independent American policy will never win."

He said that the free silver cry was a mere campaign contention. The number of men who then, at any and all risk to the credit of the country, would urge the opening of the mints of the country to silver bullion would be comparatively small. The conservative forces of business would everywhere be put in operation, and these would be sufficient to check any move tending through the medium of legislation to war with the gold standard.

The Free Trade Precedent.

Fortunately for this view of the matter, we have a precedent fresh and pat to hand. Take the demand for free trade. That was heard for years, and it seemed to grow. Protection was denounced on the stump and in the newspapers, and the charge made in a hundred forms that the masses were being deceived by the protectionists. A great many people were brought to believe the charge, and when Mr. Cleveland put out his message in 1887 it was plain that the battle of the tariff was over. It was at last to be fought on that line, and free trade got a backset.

Mr. Cleveland's message was renewed, and the democracy went before the people on a plain, unqualified free trade platform. The result was that the free trade platform was not only the presidency, but Congress in both branches. Here now it seemed would be inaugurated the long-talked-of free trade policy. The protectionists were made specific in terms, and the result at the polls was claimed to be instruction to Congress to take the tariff to a revenue basis. The way and means were provided, it was thought, to carry out the new policy, and the real free traders were very content.

A Halt Was Called.

"It soon became apparent, however, that there was a new force to be reckoned with. The business interests of the country, in democratic as in republican states, called a halt on extreme legislation. In fact, there came to be a question of the tariff, and the question at all now that it had reached the stage when real action was to be taken. New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, which had been in the lead in the free trade free trade pronouncements, were as much opposed to it being written into law as the protectionists. The result was that the free trade platform was not only the presidency, but Congress in both branches. Here now it seemed would be inaugurated the long-talked-of free trade policy. The protectionists were made specific in terms, and the result at the polls was claimed to be instruction to Congress to take the tariff to a revenue basis. The way and means were provided, it was thought, to carry out the new policy, and the real free traders were very content."

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## MORE ABOUT CUBA

(Continued from First Page.)

disagreement to the amendment of the Senate in regard to the insurance in Cuba and ask a further conference with the House on the disagreeing vote of the House thereon.

Mr. Allen Prevents a Vote.

A vote was about to be taken, when Mr. Allen started a general cry. Many Senators urged him to wait, as the Sherman motion would dispose of the subject for the present; but Mr. Allen insisted on going on, and the vote was deferred.

The Resolution Reconsidered.

At 3 o'clock the Senate passed Mr. Sherman's motion to reconsider the Cuban resolutions to conference, and agreed to non-concur in the House amendment. This was done without division.

The Senate at once turned to other business, while the galleries did not realize for some time that the Cuban resolutions had been sent to the House. The chair announced Messrs. Sherman, Morgan and Lodge as the Senate conferees.

The legislative bill was then taken up.

THE HOUSE.

This was the District of Columbia bill in the House. Some business was transacted by unanimous consent before Chairman Babcock of the District committee claimed the day. Delegate Murphy of Arizona secured consent for the consideration of the Senate bill to authorize the leasing of lands for educational purposes in Arizona. This was a modification of the bill vetoed by the President and passed over the veto by the House. The Senate modified the bill to meet the objections raised by the executive. The bill was passed.

Bills Passed.

Bills were passed to authorize the Arkansas Harbor Railway Terminal Company to construct a bridge across the Corpus Christi river, and to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Calumet river in Cook county, Ill.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the bill to amend the act to abolish the death penalty.

After the District business was completed Mr. Henderson (Iowa), chairman of the judiciary committee, called up the Curtis bill abolishing the death penalty in cases of rape and murder to bring in verdicts qualified "without the death penalty."

"I have no objection to the enactment of the bill into law a little later," said Mr. Cockrell (Tex.), "but I would like to see the bill passed before the adjournment of the House. It is possible the plans will be somewhat altered to allow of a cut in figures."

Liquor Licenses.

The excise board today granted retail licenses to Frank P. Bailey, 604 2d street northwest; W. H. Schleuter, 300 5th street northwest; John Zirwes, 500 8th street northwest; and Patrick Mahon, 1625 11th street northwest.

Claims for Extra Services.

Attorney Glascock, representing a number of ex-physicians to the poor, appeared before the board this morning to urge the favorable recommendation of the Commissioners of a bill for extra services during the smallpox epidemic.

The South Washington Crematory.

Mr. Henry Storey, secretary of the executive committee of the South Washington Crematory, has addressed a letter to the Commissioners of the District, in which he says:

"I most respectfully call your attention to statements in the public press wherein you are quoted as saying that the Brown crematory at the foot of South Capitol street is a nuisance, and that it is a disgrace to the city. I beg to say that the Brown crematory is not, and will not be, a nuisance to the city, and that it is a disgrace to the city."

On the Mounted Force.

Private George Knupper of the metropolitan police force has been made a mounted officer, vice W. J. Kenney relieved.

The Girls' Reform School.

The Commissioners today approved the appointments of the board of trustees of the Girls' Reform School, which made Mrs. J. H. Sheaffer superintendent and John J. Sheaffer overseer.

To Inspect Gas Meters.

Thomas A. Ritchie has been appointed, for not exceeding thirty days, to assist in the inspection of gas meters.

The Drawback Bill.

The Commissioners today returned Senate bill 1315 to redeem outstanding drawback certificates issued by the board of audit and the board of public works, without recommendation. They inclose a copy of the report of the auditor upon the proposition, which has heretofore been printed in The Star.

The Emrich Case.

The postponed hearing in the case of Emrich Brothers, charged with selling liquor on Sunday, came up before the excise board this morning. The hearing was postponed for the purpose of getting the man, who was persuaded to leave the city when the case was tried in the Police Court.

When the hearing was set for consideration pending the issuance of a liquor license the excise board requested the lieutenant bringing the witness before the board. When the hearing came on and the witness was absent, Lieutenant Kelly said it was his belief that he had "been seen."

Mr. Ragsdale Gets a Divorce.

Judge Cox this afternoon granted Martin S. Ragsdale a divorce from Elizabeth Ragsdale. Mr. Ragsdale filed his petition the 11th of last June, but the papers in the case were withheld from publication. The decree of the court does not state the ground on which it is based.

Purchase of Anacostia Island.

The Commissioners this afternoon answered the Senate resolution looking to the purchase of Anacostia Island for the erection of a contagious hospital, and for other purposes. The Commissioners do not think it would be a good idea to purchase the island at the present time because of the excessive cost, but make no reply to the contemplated use of the island for other purposes.

Wants a Divorce.

Laura B. Wunder today petitioned for a divorce from William H. Wunder. The papers in the case were withheld from publication.

Personal Mention.